

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/803,138
PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS
***** FOR EXAMINER REVIEW ONLY - DO NOT ENTER *****

1. (PROPOSED) A cheek and lip retractor for dentistry, comprising respective cheek portions and lip portions for the upper and lower lip, each of said lip portions comprising a lip shield and a pair of mucosa pads which are separate and spaced apart from said lip shield, each said lip shield defining a first curved surface for ~~contacting~~ receiving the lip of a patient therein, each said mucosa pad comprising an elongate arm having a first axial end coupled to said lip shield and a second axial end cantilevered from said lip shield ~~defining a second surface facing opposite said first surface~~ for contacting a mucous membrane of the patient, whereby the lip of the patient will be lifted and spaced from the teeth and gingival tissue when installed in the patient's mouth, each of said cheek portions being connected to each of said lip portions by a flexible connecting element between said lip shield and one of said pair of mucosa pads.
2. (ORIGINAL) The retractor of claim 1, wherein said lip and cheek portions as well as said connecting elements are arranged in a curved plane.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The retractor of claim 1, wherein the point of support of said mucosa pads on a mucous membrane and the center line of said lip shield are located at a distance from each other.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The retractor of claim 3, wherein said distance is in the range of approximately 10 mm to approximately 30 mm.

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5. (PROPOSED) The retractor of claim 1, wherein each pair of mucosa pad[[s]] comprises a pair of roll[[s, each of which is arranged to be]] slipped on a respective one of said elongate arms holder extending from said lip shield.
6. (ORIGINAL) The retractor of claim 1, wherein said cheek portions are in the form of flexible surfaces that are each connected to said connecting elements by a respective flexible web.
7. (ORIGINAL) The retractor of claim 1, wherein said connecting elements are arranged and designed such that in its applied state said lip portions perform an essentially translational movement when closing the mouth.

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8. (PROPOSED) A cheek and lip retractor for dentistry, comprising:
- first and second cheek engaging portions; and
 - upper and lower lip portions;
 - each of said upper and lower lip portions comprising:
 - a lip shield,
 - each said lip shield comprising first and second opposed lateral edges
 - defining a curved surface therebetween for receiving a lip of a patient, and
 - first and second mucosa pads,
 - each of said mucosa pads extending outwardly beyond said first and
 - second lateral edges of ~~spaced from~~ said lip shield ~~a distance sufficient~~ to space the lips
 - of a person wearing the retractor from a mucous membrane so as to facilitate
 - unobstructed access to the person's gingival tissue.
9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The cheek and lip retractor of claim 8, wherein
- each said cheek portion is connected to said upper and lower lip portions by respective
 - flexible connecting elements extending from said cheek portion to a position between
 - said respective lip shield and said mucosa pads.